THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 19th March 1948.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. Chairman (Sri C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR) in the chair.

I.—SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBER.

The following new member was sworn in :—

K. Muhammad Rahmat-ul-la Sahib Bahadur.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

The Government Girls' High School, Mayavaram.

* 38-B *Q*.—Dr. V. K. JOHN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether there is any truth in the report in the Press that the Government Girls' High School at Mayavaram will be closed from the next academic year or that its management will be handed over to a private body or to the municipal council if they accept the charge?

The Hon. Sri T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
"The Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee has recommended that all uneconomic schools, be they Government or aided, for boys or girls which have less than twenty pupils per class on the average should be closed and that if a local body or private agency comes forward to start or run a school or is prepared to manage an existing Government school, it should be enabled to do so. This recommendation was forwarded to the Director of Public Instruction and the Director of Public Instruction has suggested that certain schools may be closed or transferred to other managements in view of this recommendation. No orders of Government have been passed on the matter yet. The matter is under consideration."

Dr. V. K. JOHN :—"May I know whether there are any other schools, the closing of which is under the consideration of the Government?"

The Hon. Sri T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
"Owing to the recommendation of the Reorganization and Retrenchment Committee that uneconomic schools should be closed down, notices have been given to many schools and they number about 18 at present."

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DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know whether the Government Girls' High School, Mayavaram, is one of the institutions to which notice has been given, that it will be closed? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :— " I thought that I had answered this question in my reply to his original question."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" May I know what is the present strength of the school? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :— " I am unable to give that information, Sir, at present. If the hon. Member will put a separate question, the information will be obtained, and supplied to the hon. Member."

Dacoity in Nadichagi village.

* 38-A *Q.*—SRI N. SANKARA REDDI (on behalf of Sri B. Bhima Rao) : Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has perused the report about a dacoity and murder committed by a gang from the Nizam's Dominions in the village of Nadichagi in Bellary district, published in the *Indian Express* of 28th February 1948 at page 5 (column 2);

(*b*) whether the Government have received an official report about the same from the District Magistrate of Bellary; and

(*c*) what action the Government have taken thereon and what steps the Government propose to take to prevent such raids and inspire confidence in the villages?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) Yes.

" (*c*) The Agent-General for India in Hyderabad has been apprised of the incident and asked to take up the matter with the Hyderabad Government. The Government of India have also been informed and they also have instructed the Agent-General to lodge a strong protest with the Hyderabad Government and to claim compensation. The Government are taking suitable measures to prevent such incidents and to instil confidence in the villages."

SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" May I know whether the Government are aware that the Devanadugu village near Kurnool was looted on the 15th instant? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Every instance that has come to the notice of the Government has been reported to our Agent-General at Hyderabad and to the Government of India and they are taking suitable action."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I ask, how long are we to put up with these incidents, Sir? "